

UNIFORM MEDICAL PLAN (UMP)

2005

ADMINISTRATIVE SIMPLIFICATION INITIATIVES

1) Enhance Administrative Billing Policies and Procedures

- In 2004, UMP implemented an internal review process to identify and resolve burdensome administrative policies and procedures. To date, more than 40 issues have been reviewed and resolved and the UMP will continue this process in 2005.
- UMP is currently in the process of updating the edits in our claims processing system to be more consistent with the National Correct Coding Initiative (CCI). Target date for completing that process is August 2005.

2) Web Site Enhancements (www.ump.hca.wa.gov)

In 2004, the UMP expanded their provider web site, adding secure access to claims and eligibility information via OneHealthPort. The UMP will continue to expand and enhance its web site in 2005 to provide improved electronic access to information.

3) Office Ally

UMP will expand providers' options for submitting claims electronically by offering Office Ally. Office Ally is a free online service for claims submission. Implementation of this service will be completed by mid 2005.

4) Electronic Funds Transfer

In 2005, UMP will offer the option for providers to receive payments directly by way of a direct electronic funds transfer. Implementation of this service is scheduled for the later part of 2005. Please visit our web site at www.ump.hca.wa.gov to sign up for this service.

5) Washington Healthcare Forum

- The UMP will continue its work with the Forum on adoption of their administrative simplification initiatives. UMP has adopted 18 of the Forum's 20 guidelines related to Claims Processing, Referrals and Preauthorization.
- The UMP also participated in all of the Forum's 2005 statewide workshops and will continue to support that effort.

6) Provider Survey

In early 2005, the UMP completed a provider survey as way to solicit feedback from the professional provider community. This effort assisted in identifying UMP's strengths as well as specific problem areas for future action.

7) Reimbursement Steering Committee (RSC)

The UMP will continue to work with the state's interagency Reimbursement Steering Committee to adopt payment policies and methodologies that are consistent among state agencies wherever possible, and to follow industry standards.